

PRESIDENT : I am now asking the honourable member to tell me the name of the Tahsildar of whom this has been said. If he can reveal the name to me, I shall start enquiries within half an hour.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Public talk.

PRESIDENT : Order, order. Does the Honourable member believe in public talk which attributes all kinds of charges in an irresponsible manner? I tell honourable members of this House that this is a very important point and I want this matter to be perfectly clear. Either these Tahsildars exist or they do not. Either the members of the Legislature have the courage to announce the particular person who is said to be guilty of such charges or they have not. They do not want to mention the name of the Tahsildar lest they should incur the displeasure of the Tahsildar or the displeasure of the Peishkar or whichever officer of Government it may be.

How are the Government to know which Tahsildar mixes chaff with paddy? How are they to know which Tahsildar does not? Am I expected to order all Tahsildars to be suspended tomorrow morning?

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : I should say in this connection that that there is a very efficient C. I. D.

PRESIDENT : It is for the simple reason that the C. I. D. proceeds on the basis of local reputation and it is because the C. I. D. people have failed to bring to the notice of the Government the name of the Tahsildar concerned that I am asking the honourable member to tell the name of the particular Tahsildar and I undertake to have him suspended. Honourable members who make charges should give names, for justice has to be done. If honourable members will not give the names in public let them give the names in sealed envelopes in the course of this evening, or by tomorrow evening. Then I shall start enquiry immediately. After all, the whole work of the collection of paddy, the whole of the distribution of paddy, the whole movement of paddy from one place to another, is in the hands of the Revenue Officers. If the general idea is to group all officers together as corrupt, they will be discouraged the correct man will be disheartened.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI : I want to submit to this House and to you, Sir, that it is not through fear that we are unable to give the names of the Tahsildars. It is a fact that I am not at all afraid of even bigger officials than Tahsildars. Justice and law are administered here.

PRESIDENT : The question is if the Member has the leave of the House to discuss the motion?

The House voted against leave being given.

ELECTION TO THE FOOD CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT : Before proceeding to other business, I have to inform the Members that four members have to be elected by this House to a Committee which is proposed to be constituted to advise this Government on food control measures. The election will be conducted today after the regular business for the day is over.